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International application number: PCT/US05/006249

International filing date: 25 February 2005 (25.02.2005)

Document type: Certified copy of priority document

Document details: Country/Office: US
Number: 60/551,584
Filing date: 09 March 2004 (09.03.2004)

Date of receipt at the International Bureau: 31 March 2005 (31.03.2005)

Remark: Priority document submitted or transmitted to the International Bureau in compliance with Rule 17.1(a) or (b)

World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) - Geneva, Switzerland
Organisation Mondiale de la Propriété Intellectuelle (OMPI) - Genève, Suisse

1297390

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

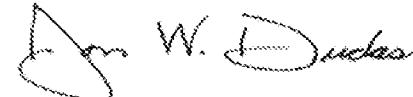United States Patent and Trademark Office

March 17, 2005

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        APPLICATION NUMBER: *60/551,584*
        FILING DATE: *March 09, 2004*
        RELATED PCT APPLICATION NUMBER: *PCT/US05/06249*

Certified by

Under Secretary of Commerce
for Intellectual Property
and Director of the United States
Patent and Trademark Office

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PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FOR PATENT COVER SHEET

This is a request for filing a PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FOR PATENT under 37 CFR 1.53 (c).

Express Mail Label No. EV 441452479 US

INVENTOR(S)

Given Name (first and middle [if any])	Family Name or Surname	Residence (City and either State or Foreign Country)
Carolynn Rae	Johnson	Indianapolis, Indiana USA
Darrel Wayne	Randall	Danville, Indiana USA

☐ *Additional inventors are being named on the next separately numbered sheets attached hereto*

TITLE OF THE INVENTION (280 characters max)

Remind Timer Option For Remote TV Location IN DSS 2-in-1 Set Top Box

CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

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ENCLOSED APPLICATION PARTS (check all that apply)

☒ Specification *Number of Pages* [2]   ☐ CD(s), Number [ ]

☐ Drawing(s) *Number of Sheets* [ ]   ☐ Other (specify) [ ]

☐ Application Data Sheet. See 37 CFR 1.76

METHOD OF PAYMENT OF FILING FEES FOR THIS PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FOR PATENT (check one)

☐ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27.

☐ A check or money order is enclosed to cover the filing fees

☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge filing fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account Number: 07-0832

☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.

FILING FEE AMOUNT ($) 160

The invention was made by an agency of the United States Government or under a contract with an agency of the United States Government.

☒ No.
☐ Yes, the name of the U.S. Government agency and the Government contract number are: _____.

Respectfully submitted,

SIGNATURE [signature]

TYPED or PRINTED NAME   Joseph J. Kolodka

TELEPHONE 609 734-6816

03/09/04

REG. No. 39,731

PU040072

USE ONLY FOR FILING A PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FOR PATENT

FEE TRANSMITTAL
for FY 2004

Effective 01/01/2003. Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

☐ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT | ($) 160

Complete if Known	
Application Number	
Filing Date	
First Named Inventor	CAROLYNN RAE JOHNSON et al.
Examiner Name	
Art Unit	
Attorney Docket No.	PU040072

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)

☐ Check   ☐ Credit card   ☐ Money Order   ☐ Other   ☐ None

☒ Deposit Account:

Deposit Account Number	07-0832
Deposit Account Name	THOMSON LICENSING INC.

The Director is authorized to: (check all that apply)
☒ Charge fee(s) indicated below   ☐ Credit any overpayments
☒ Charge any additional fee(s) during the pendency of this application
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FEE CALCULATION

1. BASIC FILING FEE

Large Entity		Small Entity		Fee Description	
Fee Code	Fee ($)	Fee Code	Fee ($)		Fee Paid
1001	770	2001	385	Utility filing fee	
1002	340	2002	170	Design filing fee	
1003	530	2003	265	Plant filing fee	
1004	770	2004	385	Reissue filing fee	
1005	160	2005	80	Provisional filling fee	160

SUBTOTAL (1) | ($) 160

2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES FOR UTILITY AND REISSUE

	Extra Claims		Fee from below		Fee Paid
Total Claims		-** =	0	X	= 0
Independent Claims		-** =	0	X	= 0
Multiple Dependent				X	= 0

Large Entity		Small Entity		Fee Description
Fee Code	Fee ($)	Fee Code	Fee ($)	
1202	18	2202	9	Claims in excess of 20
1201	86	2201	43	Independent claims in excess of 3
1203	290	2203	145	Multiple dependent claim, if not paid
1204	86	2204	43	** Reissue independent claims over original patent
1205	18	2205	9	** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent

SUBTOTAL (2) | ($) 0

**or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above

FEE CALCULATION (continued)

3. ADDITIONAL FEES

Large Entity		Small Entity		Fee Description	Fee Paid
Fee Code	Fee ($)	Fee Code	Fee ($)		
1051	130	2051	65	Surcharge - late filing fee or oath	
1052	50	2052	25	Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet.	
1053	130	1053	130	Non-English specification	
1812	2,520	1812	2,520	For filing a request for reexamination	
1804	920*	1804	920*	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action	
1805	1,840*	1805	1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action	
1251	110	2251	55	Extension for reply within first month	
1252	420	2252	210	Extension for reply within second month	
1253	950	2253	475	Extension for reply within third month	
1254	1,480	2254	740	Extension for reply within fourth month	
1255	2,010	2255	1,005	Extension for reply within fifth month	
1401	330	2401	165	Notice of Appeal	
1402	330	2402	165	Filing a brief in support of an appeal	
1403	290	2403	145	Request for oral hearing	
1451	1,510	1451	1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding	
1452	110	2452	55	Petition to revive – unavoidable	
1453	1,330	2453	665	Petition to revive – unintentional	
1501	1,330	2501	665	Utility issue fee (or reissue)	
1502	480	2502	240	Design issue fee	
1503	640	2503	320	Plant issue fee	
1460	130	1460	130	Petitions to the Commissioner	
1807	50	1807	50	Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17 (q)	
1806	180	1806	180	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	
8021	40	8021	40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	
1809	770	2809	385	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR § 1.129(a))	
1810	770	2810	385	For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR § 1.129(b))	
1801	770	2801	385	Request for Continued Examination (RCE)	
1802	900	1802	900	Request for expedited examination of a design application	

Other fee (specify) _____

*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid

SUBTOTAL (3) | ($) 0

SUBMITTED BY

			Complete (if applicable)
Name (Print/Type)	JOSEPH J. KOLODKA	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) 39731	Telephone +1 609 734-6816
Signature			Date March 9, 2004
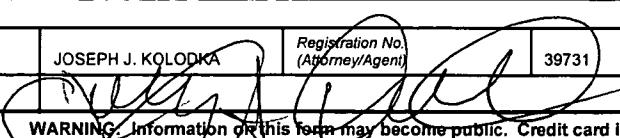
WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

| Title: | Remind Timer Option for Remote TV Location in DSS 2-in-1 Set Top Box |

A. Brief summary of the invention

The Gemini product consists of one physical set top box that decodes the satellite signal for and controls the user interfaces displayed on two different TVs, one of which is local to the physical STB (TV1) and one that is at a remote location (TV2).

This feature would allow the user to indicate that a Remind Timer - a timer created to remind the user about an upcoming event – should appear only on the TV involved in setting up the timer or should appear on both TVs connected to the set top box.

B. Keywords: list keywords or combinations of keywords to guide patent and literature searches. Underline the most important keywords.

DSS, DBS, Satellite TV, 2-in1, Timer, Reminder

C. Brief discussion of the problem solved by the invention.

The Timer Lists for the two TVs will be maintained as independents lists to minimize user confusion in regard to conflicting timers – timers that overlap - and so that if VCR Control is used in the product, there will be no confusion as to which Timer List is associated with the connected VCR.

However, in a 2-in-1 system, such as Gemini, there may be circumstances in which the user wants to be reminded of a programming event regardless of the location used to create that reminder. For example, if the user purchased a PPV in advance of the air time or date, it is very likely that the user will want to be reminded of the start of that event regardless of which TV the user is watching at the time that the PPV event is scheduled to begin. A reminder on a TV in the living room does the user no good if he or she is watching the satellite signal on the TV in the bedroom.

However, there may be other situations in which the user does not want to be reminded of an upcoming event in a location other than that used to create the reminder. For example, if an adult user set up a reminder for an upcoming R movie, he or she might not want to be reminded of that event on the Living Room TV that is also accessible by the children of the household.

This feature would allow the user to indicate that a reminder should appear on only one TV or on both.

D. Discussion of how you or others have implemented similar things in the past, including the manner in which others have attempted to solve the problem. Point out disadvantages and weaknesses in previous practice. Include literature references where available.

I am unaware of any similar products on the market to date. Therefore this invention disclosure solves a new problem that is unique to this product.

E. Description of the invention, including one or more practical embodiments of the invention in sufficient detail to allow one with ordinary skill in the art to practice the invention. Include schematic(s), flow chart(s) and or figures to clarify operation of the invention. Point out important features and items you believe to be new. State advantages of the invention and sacrifices, if any, made to achieve these advantages. Describe any experiments conducted and the results of those experiments.

From the menu system, the user would be able to access a screen to allow him or her to create a new timer / reminder or to edit an existing one. One of the options included in this setup screen would allow the user to indicate that the reminder notice should appear on both TVs.

In the example of Figure 1, this is accomplished by placing a check in the box labeled "Remind me on both TVs". If the user placed a check in this box, then the reminder notice would appear on both screens shortly before the start of the event. If the user left this box blank, then the reminder notice would only appear on the TV that was used to create the reminder.

Figure 1: Timer Setup Screen with Dual Remind Timer Option
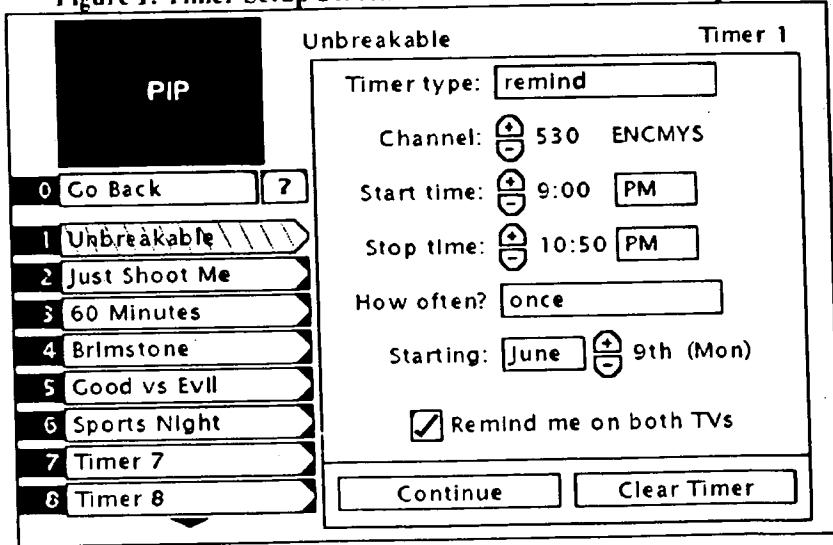
Note: the intention for Gemini is to auto-tune to the appropriate channel only on the TV that was used to create the reminder; the other TV would present the user with an OSD simply reminding him of the event with an option to tune to the appropriate channel. However other implementations could auto-tune both TVs or neither.

Other implementations might also allow the user to set a default option that would apply to all new reminders or might allow the user to indicate that the reminder should appear on only TV1, on only TV2 or on both by using multiple checkboxes. This would be preferable for future systems that may eventually connect to more than two TVs and would be accomplished by supplying a checkbox for each connected TV.